

WE CLAIM:

1. An ink jet printhead which comprises
at least one printhead chip that comprises
5 a wafer substrate;
a plurality of nozzle arrangements positioned on the wafer substrate, each
nozzle arrangement having nozzle chamber walls and a roof wall that define a
nozzle chamber and a nozzle opening in fluid communication with said nozzle
chamber; and
10 an actuator that is operatively arranged with respect to each nozzle
arrangement to eject ink from said nozzle chamber through the nozzle opening on
demand; and
a nozzle guard positioned over the printhead chip, the nozzle guard comprising
a support structure that extends from the printhead chip; and
15 a planar cover member positioned on the support structure, the planar
cover member defining a plurality of passages, each passage being in register with
a respective nozzle opening, the planar cover member being less than
approximately 300 microns thick.
- 20 2. An ink jet printhead as claimed in claim 1, in which the support structure of the
nozzle guard defines a number of openings that permit the ingress of air into a region
between the printhead chip and the cover member, so that the air can pass through the
passages.
3. An ink jet printhead as claimed in claim 1, in which the support structure and the
cover member are defined by a wafer substrate.